



DIVISION OF MINES
BOARD OF COAL MINING EXAMINERS
CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS
<http://www.dmme.virginia.gov/dm/default.htm>

ELECTRICAL REPAIRMAN SURFACE (COAL)

PHOTO ID REQUIRED

Article 3 of the **Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia** establishes requirements for certification of coal mine workers. The certification requirements are included in §45.1-161.24 through §45.1-161.41 in which the Board of Coal Mining Examiners is established for the purpose of administering the certification program. The Board has promulgated certification regulations 4 VAC 25-20, which set the minimum standards and procedures required for Virginia coal miner examinations and certifications.

CERTIFICATION CLASSIFICATION: **Surface Electrical Repairman (Coal)*

This certification authorizes the holder to:

- Perform electrical work and inspections at surface locations of underground coal mines, preparation plants, and at surface (strip) coal mines (any surface location)
- Make examinations on electrical equipment
- Conduct and record results of electrical examinations

APPLICATION/EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENTS:

- Application (BCME-1) and \$40.00 fee 5 working days prior to examination
 - **Note:** Classes are limited to 20 people and tend to fill quickly. Application fees are due no later than 5 working days prior to the examination, but this will not guarantee that an opening will be available.
- One year of electrical experience in surface coal mining under the direction of a certified surface electrical repairman or appropriately related work experience approved by the Chief of the Division of Mines. **NOTE: Experience must be submitted within 5 years of passing the examination. After 5 years records are destroyed. Must reapply if future certification is desired.**
- Six months credit will be granted for electrical training from a college, technical school, or vocational school (copy of certificate required). The remaining 6 months must be surface coal mining electrical work under the supervision of a certified electrician.
- Hold a General Miner Certification and Gas Detection
- Current first aid training (MSHA 5000-23 Annual Retraining or New Miner Inexperienced Training acceptable)

NOTE: Must provide MSHA Individual Identification Number prior to certification being issued.

EXAMINATION REQUIREMENTS: A score of 80% on each element of the examination

ELEMENTS OF EXAM	NUMBER OF QUESTIONS
▪ Alternating Current (AC)	20
▪ Direct Current (DC)	20
▪ Circuits & Equipment/drawings (CE)	25
▪ Cable Splicing (CS)	20
▪ High Voltage (HV)	20
▪ Legal Requirements (LR)	20
▪ Permissibility (PR)	20
▪ Gas Detection - practical demonstration	
▪ Records - Practical Stations (5)	
1. Control Circuit Troubleshooting - Electrical Schematic Reading (ER)	
2. Electrical Examinations - Record Keeping (RK) (Surface)	
3. Cable Troubleshooting (CT)	
4. Circuit Breaker Troubleshooting (CB)	
5. Permissibility (PD)	

RECOMMENDED REFERENCE/STUDY MATERIALS:

- Electrical Study Guide/Student Training Guide (\$20.00)
- Coal Mine Safety Laws of Virginia (\$25.00)
- BCME Requirements (No charge)
- First Aid for Miners Study Guide (\$15.00)
- Title 30 CFR Parts 18, 75, 77 (Included in study guide)

The above mentioned study materials are available at the Department of Mines, Minerals and Energy's Big Stone Gap Office, Customer Assistance Center (276) 523-8235 and Lebanon Field Office (276) 415-9650.

***8 hours annual continuing education required to update certification.**